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Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 EB-08 TRSE-00
HA-05 OES-09 DLOS-09 AID-05 OMB-01 COME-00 /111 W
----------056815 171224Z /46
O 171136Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7787
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUKKXTE
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652:NA
TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, CB, TH
SUBJ: IENG SARY VISIT TO THAILAND (II)

REF: BANGKOK 20093

SUMMARY: DURING A SECOND MEETING WITH FONMIN UPPADIT AND IN LENGTHY TALKS WITH PM KRIANGSAK, CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PM IENG SARY AND HIS HOSTS APPARENTLY REACHED NO CONCRETE AGREEMENTS ON ENDING BORDER INCIDENTS. THAI LEADERS, NEVERTHELESS, EXPRESSED SOME CONFIDENCE THAT THE TALKS
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WOULD SOMEHOW RESULT IN LESSENED BORDER DIFFICULTIES. IENG SARY AGAIN DELAYED A RESPONSE ON EXCHANGE OF EMBASSIES AND REACTIVATION OF THE BORDER LIAISON COMMITTEES. TRADE, TECHNICAL EXCHANGE AND TREATMENT OF CAPTURED THAI FISHERMEN WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING A SECOND ROUND OF TALKS JULY 15 WITH FONMIN

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UPPADIT, CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PM IENG SARY REPORTEDLY ASSURED THE THAIS THAT CAMBODIA WOULD ABIDE STRICTLY BY THE OCT. 31 COMMUNIQUE. UPPADIT TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING THAT THAILAND AND CAMBODIA AGREED TO STEP UP EFFORTS TO PREVENT ARMED CLASHES ON THE BORDERS. UPPADIT CALLED THIS AGREEMENT A "SATISFACTORY ACHIEVEMENT." UPPADIT CONCEDED THAT NO DEFINITE PLAN ON HOW TO PREVENT BORDER INCIDENTS HAD EMERGED.

2. PRESS REPORTED THAT IN THE SECOND ROUND, THE THAI AND CAMBODIAN DELEGATIONS ALSO DISCUSSED TRADE AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE. BOTH APPARENTLY AGREED TO EXCHANGE TRADE DELEGATIONS TO STUDY POSSIBILITIES. CAMBODIA CALLED FOR TRADE ON A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT BASIS, TO WHICH THE THAIS HAVE APPARENTLY AGREED. TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION WILL, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS BASED ON MFA BRIEFINGS, CONCERN AGRICULTURAL ISSUES. CAMBODIANS SEEM INTERESTED IN FISH AND SHRIMP PROPAGATION AND PIG REARING, AREAS IN WHICH THE THAIS HAVE EXPERTISE. THAIS OFFERED TO BUY 100 TONS OF SMOKED FISH IN 1979, AND TO SELL PIGS TO CAMBODIA.

3. IN ONE OF THE FEW CONCRETE BREAKTHROUGHS THUS FAR, BOTH SIDES AGREED TO ESTABLISH A TELEGRAPHIC LINK BETWEEN BANGKOK AND PHNOM PENH. UPPADIT ALSO ASKED FOR LENIENT TREATMENT OF THAIS CAUGHT FISHING IN CAMBODIAN WATERS. SARY SAID THAT "CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES HAD TO ENFORCE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAW," BUT THAIS WHO "INADVERTENTLY VENTURED INTO CAMBODIAN WATERS WOULD BE TREATED WITH UNDERSTANDING AND LENIENCY."

4. IN THE EVENING JULY 15, SARY WAS RECEIVED BY THE KING. CONTENTS OF THE HOUR-LONG MEETING ARE NOT KNOWN. THE QUEEN WAS ABSENT FROM THE MEETING. PRINCESS MAHA CHAKRI SIRINDHORN ATTENDED THE RECEPTION, PERHAPS IN THE PLACE OF THE QUEEN.

5. IN WHAT WAS ANTICIPATED TO BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MEETING OF THE VISIT, PM KRIANGSAK HOSTED A LUNCHEON AT HIS HOME JULY 16 IN HONOR OF SARY. KRIANGSAK PREPARED THE MENU OF NOODLES AND BEEF, FRIED MUSHROOMS, PIQUANT BROTH AND SOUR SOUP OF CAMBODIAN CRISP FISH. COMMANDERS IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES ATTENDED THE LUNCH. PM KRIANGSAK AFTERWARD PROFESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE TALKS, WHICH HE SAID FOCUSSED ON THE BORDER SITUATION. KRIANGSAK SAID THAT NO CONCRETE MEASURES TO STOP THE CLASHES HAD BEEN WORKED OUT. "WE TALKED AS SOLDIERS," KRIANGSAK TOLD THE PRESS, AND "I AM VERY OPTIMISTIC THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THEIR TROOPS ALONG THE BORDER." QUESTIONED ABOUT SPECIFIC MEASURES, KRIANGSAK SAID, "THERE

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ARE NO MEASURES, NO GUARANTEE. WE WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE." SAYING THAT BOTH SIDES KNEW WHAT THE OTHER WAS TALKING ABOUT, KRIANGSAK SAID THAT NEITHER HE NOR IENG SARY HAD MENTIONED THE THAI COMMUNISTS OR THE KHMER RESISTANCE "WHO ARE OPERATING ALONG THE BORDER." "WE TOUCHED ON NOTHING THAT WOULD LEAD TO CONFLICT AND ON EVERYTHING WHICH COULD LEAD TO OUR FUTURE COOPERATION," KRIANGSAK TOLD THE PRESS.

6. IN A RECEPTION GIVEN JULY 14 BY DEPUTY PM SUNTHORN HONGLADAROM, CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR TO LAOS SAM SAN TOLD SUNTHORN THAT CAMBODIA MIGHT REJOIN THE MEKONG COMMITTEE NEXT YEAR. CAMBODIA FULLY SCWURR THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT, SAM SAN REPORTEDLY TOLD SUNTHORN.
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7. CAMBODIANS INVITED PM KRIANGSAK AND DEPUTY PM SUNTHORN TO VISIT CAMBODIA. BOTH ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE BUT SAID THAT THEY ALSO HAD OTHER PRESSING INVITATIONS.

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8. THE CAMBODIAN DELEGATION IS SHOWING A FILM JULY 17 ON NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN CAMBODIA. SARY WILL HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 5 PM THE SAME DAY. HE HOSTED A LUNCH JULY 17 AND UPPADIT WILL HOLD A FAREWELL RECEPTION EARLY IN THE EVENING, JUST PRIOR TO SARY'S DEPARTURE. O'DONOHUE

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